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ALABAMA EXECUTIVE LETTER BOOK
DECEMBER 18, 1822 - MAY 18, 1836

Department of State,
Cahawba December 18, 1822.

The Judge of the County Court,
of Dallas county,

Sir,

Pursuant to the 9th Section of an act passed 18th December 1822 entitled, "An act to appoint Commissioners to lay out certain roads therein specified, and for other purposes." I herewith transmit you, by direction of the Governor, a copy of the report of the said Commissioners on such part of said roads leading from Cahawba to Tennessee river, as has been designated in your County.

I am, Sir, with great respect
Yr. Most obt. servt:
G. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Same as the above, transmitted to the Judge of the County Court of Perry county; to the Judge of the County Court of Bibb ~~County~~ — to the Judge of the County Court of Shelby: to the Judge of the County Court of St Clair County: to the Judge of the County Court of Blount County, and to the Judge of the County Court of Morgan County.

G. I. Pleasants

Department of State,
Cahawba Dec. 24th 1822.

Hon: Wm. R. King,

Sir,

By direction of the Governor, I herewith transmit you, a certificate to the Senate of the United States, of your having been elected on the 12th. Inst by the General Assembly of Alabama, a Senator from this State to the Congress of the United States for the ensuing Term of six years to commence on the fourth day of March next.

I have the honor to be with
high consideration &c.
G. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Executive Department
Cahawba January 2, 1823.

The President and Directors
of the Tombeckbe Bank,

Gentlemen,

The enclosed Copy of a resolution

of the late assembly will shew that I am authorized on the part of the State to renew and continue the loan formerly made of the Tombeckbee Bank on the same terms of the former loan excepting that half of the sum is to be deposited in the Treasury.

You will please to consider this is as my application for said loan conformably with said Resolution. Enclosed is a note, which if the application be acceded to, you will retain as evidence of the obligation of the State. You may make the period of the loan either for 6 or 12 months. The interest of the former loan is appropriated in the Treasury and will be remitted to you by the first safe hand, or will be paid here to your order.

Your answer to the application herein made will be desirable as early as convenient.

I am with respect &c
(Signed) Israel Pickens

(Accompanied with the Resolution attested (J. J. Pleasants))

State of Alabama,
Executive Department
Jan: 2, 1823.

Sir,

I enclose herewith a copy of an act passed last Session of the Legislature, authorizing a person to receive the three per cent fund on the proceeds of lands sold since 1st Sept: 1819, agreeably to the act of Congress of last Session.

Having heretofore requested information of the situation of this fund and of the probable time when the State might receive a portion of it, after your answer is received it may be proper to learn from you the most convenient channel in which the payment may be made by the Treasury Department.

I am &c.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

The Hon
Wm. H. Crawford,
Secy Treasury

Cahawba Jan: 2, 1823.

The Hon Gabriel Moore,

Sir, I have herewith transmitted a memorial from the Legislature, the object of which is to obtain, by treaty with the Cherokees, the land of that nation west of Wills valley.

I am &c
(Signed) Israel Pickens

Executive Department, State of Alabama
Cahawba January 2, 1823.

His Excellency Walter Leake,
Governor of the State of Mississippi.
Sir,

Herewith accompanying is a Resolution for opening a road from the City of Mobile towards Fords on Pearl River as far as the State line of Mississippi.

Believing such a road to be of mutual advantage to both states, I hope it may meet the views of your Excellency to present the subject to the Legislature of the State over which you preside.

I will also take this occasion to mention that a Turnpike has lately been established on the Military road as far as the State line, near Columbus, and I entertain the expectation that the portion of that road which is within this State will ~~be~~ very soon be put in good repair. Should it meet the views of the State of Mississippi to make some provision for the repair of that road so far as it runs in that state: the public Convenience would probably be much promoted.

I have the honor to be, with great respect &c.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

State of Alabama,
Executive Department,
Cahawba, Jan: 2, 1823.

Hon: Wm H. Crawford,
Secy Treasury U.S. Sir,

Your letter of the 28th November last is received, in which you mention that there appeared from the addition of the Contents of the selections 113 87/100 acres more than the Complement allowed. On adverting to one fact it will appear that a quarter section has been taken into the estimation which should not have, viz: N.W. qr. sec 2 Township 22 Range 3 West, Northern Survey. This quarter being the remnant of a body of eight or nine quarters all of which except this solitary one had been sold by mistake at the Land Office at Tuskaloosa, and which sale has been sanctioned. This being a single quarter section not connected with any other tract could not of course be retained on account of being below the size required by the act of Congress. This quarter being deducted would leave about 46 acres short of the Complement. I am at a loss to make a selection that will answer to the amount. Unless the 1/8 of a section will be it may not be practicable to fill the Complement. In case such quantity may be allowed, I will name two quarters adjoining the reserve in Township 4 Range 11 from either of which it may be taken as you may think proper.

the one preferable is the West part of N.W. 18. T.4 R.10 Northern Survey: this is a relinquished tract under the relief law — Next and in case that be not admissible, is the East part of N.E. 7. T.4 Range 11 Northern survey.

I transmit you herewith an authenticated Copy of the of the act of incorporation and the act amendatory thereof both of which declares the land to be vested in the Corporation. The board of Trustees were in session when your letter was received, and they instructed me to transmit these documents that you might determine whether it would not be most correct to issue the patents to the Corporation. However, as to this point it is left to your discretion. The State's interest is considered as clearly vested in the Trustees for the purposes of the grant

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) Israel Pickens

Cahawba Jan: 2, 1823.

Messrs: Wm R King & Wm Kelly } Senators &c.

Gentlemen,

The accompanying Memorial from the Legislature praying to have a Treaty with the Cherokees to extinguish their title to the lands held by that nation West of Wills valley is enclosed to you to be laid before Congress and for the purpose of such other measures being taken as may in your judgment Contribute to the object of the memorial.

I am &c.

Israel Pickens

Executive Department,
Cahawba Jan: 2, 1823.

Hon: Gabriel Moore,

Sir,

Accompanying are several Memorials and Resolution which I have been requested by the General Assembly to transmit you. One of some importance, relates to the fortifications at the mouth of Mobile.

A request to pass a law allowing tonnage duty on vessels coming into Mobile and Blakeley — Two memorials in regard to public Lands &c.

In these your attention can not be expected to be otherwise applied than in the relative importance of the several matters. I am &c.

(Signed) Israel Pickens

Executive Department,
Cahawba, Jan. 2, 1823.

Hon: Wm R. King &
Wm Kelly, Gentlemen,

Accompanying you will receive several Memorials to Congress &c.

One of the most important is that on the subject of the fortification at Mobile point and Dauphin Island - There are resolutions of instruction to procure a law laying tonnage duties on vessels coming into Mobile and Mobile and Blakeley).

A Memorial in relation to the lands in Jackson and Decatur

Two Memorials to Congress, one requiring lands to be entered in 1/16 parts of Sections and to allow divisions either way - The other, asking of Congress to refund 37½ per Cent on all full payments for land purchased since the Mississippi stock opened.

In your attention to the various wishes and wants of the General assembly you will apportion of Course such share to each as its importance may merit.

I am very respectfully
signed Israel Pickens

State of Alabama,
Executive Office Cahawba, Jan 10, 1823.

His Excellency
John Clark, Governor,
of the State of Georgia,

I herewith transmit you by direction of the Governor, a copy of Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of this State, in relation to the boundary line between this State, and the State over which you preside, and in which the Concurrence of the State of Georgia is desired.

Your Excellency will, therefore, please to take such measures in relation to the same, as will be most likely to promote the objects of the General assembly of the State of Alabama

I have the honor to be &c.
J. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Department of State, Cahawba Feb 4, 1823

Messrs: Miller & Maxwell
Printers Darien Ga. Gent:

Enclosed herein you have the amount of your bill against the Executive of this State for advertising certain fugitives from justice in your paper $4.75 cent

Yours &c, J. I. Pleasants

Executive Office Feb: 3, 1823.

Henry Hitchcock, Esquire,
Attorney General,
Sir

The first period of three years prescribed for the service of Justices of the Peace by the act of the 17th December, 1819, being nearly expired, a doubt is apprehended will arise whether as well the Justices elected since March 1820 to fill vacancies as those then elected will go out of office on the first monday of March next. In case the ~~appointment~~ affirmative of this question be the law, and the election of any portion of the Justices be omitted on that day, another question may well arise, whether this omission can be supplied according to any existing laws. Your answer is therefore desired in regard to these questions

I am your most Ob.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

State of Alabama,
Executive Department,
Cahawba 4th Feb: 1823.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 17th ult. and accompanying resolution of the Legislature of the State of Georgia, relative to the extension of and marking the line dividing the two States.

You will have received a copy of a similar resolution passed by the General assembly of this State.

It is unfortunate that the Legislature of this State, omitted to appoint the Commissioner or artist contemplated by their resolution.

The desire to have our dividing line Extended is mutually entertained by this State, but I fear the failure to appoint the Commissioner &c. may operate to induce the object to be retarded. However, as soon as practicable every attention will be given to the effecting of the object, important as it is, to both States.

I am respectfully
Your most obt.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

His Excellency
John Clarke
Gov. of Georgia.

State of Alabama,
Executive Department
Cahawba Feb: 4, 1823.

Hon: John Q. Adams
Secretary of State,

Sir,

I enclose you a resolution passed by the Legislature of this State, and request that it be laid before the President of the United States.

I have the honor to be your most obt.
Israel Pickens

State of Alabama Executive Department
Cahawba Feb. 4, 1823.

Messrs. Wm R. King &
Wm Kelley, Senators from Alabama
and Gabriel Moore Representative

Gentlemen,

A Resolution of the Legislature of this State proposing the extension and marking of the Boundary line between this State and Georgia has heretofore been transmitted to you. The resolution requires some urgent attention on the part of the Executive, altho the Legislature has made no appointment of Commissioner or artist. This omission has occasioned some embarrassment in urging an early performance of the work; as such would leave the State without a share in its execution. As there may be some exercise of judgment as well as skill in determining the points on Tennessee and Chattahoochee, and between them, as defined in the Articles of agreement and Cession: it is desirable that this State should be represented in that business.

A resolution, nearly a copy of ours, passed by the Legislature of Georgia, and the subject will be no doubt, pressed equally strong at least, by that State. To have our own State represented in the board of Commissioners or artists it will be necessary to postpone the operation, until the next Legislature shall have acted on the subject farther. Should it however, be pressed earlier, it may be well that we should pay some attention to the nomination of a proper artist or of Commissioners to be appointed by the U.S. On this subject I must depend on your prudence, and wish you to consult upon it and to confer with the President. I would suggest that in the appointment of an artist I do not know a better surveyor that we possess than Mr James Gaines, of Dallas County.

I am with much respect
your most obt. Servt.

(Signed) Israel Pickens

Department of State,
Cahawba March 29, 1823

Hugh H. Rolston, Esq.
Clk County Ct Mobile County.

Enclosed herein you have commissions for William P. Clarke, B. B. Breeden, Edwin Lewis, William Evans and Jonah Wilkins, Esquires, as Justices of the Peace for the County of Mobile.

I am unable to determine in what way a decision is to be had between Messrs. Johnson and Hall — Nor am I, in the absence of the Governor from the seat of Government, authorized to say whether R. C. Lane, Esq. is entitled to a Commission. I hope therefore, Mr. L. will not Consider me as overstepping the line of my duty, or as expressing any opinion on the propriety of his being commissioned, by declining to forward his Commission, until the question is determined by the Governor, whose province it is to decide — The case of D. Duval, Esq. is also laid over for the Consideration of the Governor.

I am with great respect,
Yr. most Ob. Servt.
J. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Department of State,
Cahawba April 16, 1823

Col. David Cole,
(of 32nd Regt) Sir,

I herewith transmit you commissions for Capt Nelson, Ensign Perry and Messrs. Love and Wallace Officers in your Staff.

The Governor considers, that Lieut: Lee George is not eligible to the office to which he has been elected: he having been heretofore Commissioned as a Captain in your regiment, and having resigned, as set forth in your return, without leave of a Court Martial, before the expiration of two years — The Governor therefore, thinks that Capt George is not qualified to hold said office.

I am &c.
J. I. Pleasants,
Secretary of State.

Alabama —
Department of State,
Cahawba April 16, 1823

Messrs Brown & Heiskell
Printers Knoxville Ten.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 6th February enclosing proposals for printing the Digest of the Statutes of this State,

as prepared by Judge Toulmin, has been received — In reply I have on
to state, that by the terms of the act of our Legislature, and which were
set forth in the ~~advertisement~~ of the Governor, the Contract was to be closed
on the first day of March. Your proposals did not reach here until
after that day. This however need not be a matter of regret to you, as the
Contract was entered into for $ 4250.

I am with great respect &c. yrs

P.S. I enclose the bond   J. J. Pleasants
forwarded by you.)   Secretary of State

Same in substance transmitted Messrs. Carey & Lea Booksellers &c.
Philadelphia — on the 12th. —

Same in substance to Messrs. Meriwether & Kinn Frankfort, Ky. —

Same to Wm Greer, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania —

Executive Office,
Cahawba, April 15th 1823.

Henry Hitchcock, Esqr.
Sir,

Judge Toulmin has written to me, that he is not able to proceed to New York to superintend the printing of the Digest of the Statutes of this State, conformably with the duty assigned him in that respect by the act of last Session on the subject, and Mr. Curtis having informed me that it ~~would~~ will not be inconvenient to you while on your intended journey to Washington city, to undertake the performance of so much of the duty assigned to the Judge by the act as he may leave unperformed: I have therefore thought it proper, by the power vested by the said act in the Executive, to authorize and appoint you to do and perform such duty.

Judge Toulmin is, I understand, employed in completing the Index, the marginal notes, and the digest of the Statutes of the last Session, and that these will be completed within a few days. It is to be understood, that so far as he shall be able to furnish the above, without hindrance to Mr. Curtis in his undertaking, be performed by the Judge.

There has been an obvious omission of one instrument in the requirement of the act, which should by all means be inserted in the Digest — The State Constitution. This Mr. Curtis has agreed to include.

You will please to give immediate information of your acceptance of this trust or otherwise. And in case you undertake it, you are referred to Mr. Curtis (who has undertaken the printing) for all necessary arrangements

I am &c
(Signed) Israel Pickens

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Executive Office,
Cahawba April 16, 1823.

Mr. J. Sammer,

I have received a letter from Gen. Coffee informing me of your willingness to furnish a map as contemplated by the resolution of the last Session of our assembly. And also, that he has agreed to allow you the necessary access to the Surveyor General's Office. Your letter also to the Secretary of State, has been communicated to me. In that you express a loss in determining the compensation which would be fair. On this point I am at equal loss. I can not doubt however, that the Legislature will very freely make you such compensation as will be reasonable, and so far as I may have it in my power to contribute to a just estimation of the value of your services, shall be done.

One desideratum is to obtain a correct delineation of the Counties as they are now bounded. Many alterations having been made in the County boundaries, much care be requisite in the perusal of the acts. In this part the Secretary of State can transmit you some memoranda that may facilitate you. In some portion of the middle Country where, Houses, ridges and Water ~~Courses~~ are points of boundary some enquiry will be necessary in those parts.

I wish you to take this letter as your authority for commencing the work.

I would suggest that Henry S. Tanner is engaged in Philadelphia, in publishing a map of this State, and has it nearly prepared for the press. He has applied for information of the County boundaries &c. He has had access to the General Land, and says he has and will embrace the latest surveys returned and to be returned during this month. He is desirous of any assistance from this quarter to render his work perfect and proffers compensation for such assistance. His map on a scale of 17 miles to the inch.

How it may best comport with the interest of the State, if you will open an immediate correspondence with Mr. Tanner, and induce him to suspend the completion of his work, till you be enabled to furnish him with such materials as he may want. And as it will make his map of more worth where it will be most wanted, it will be an object with him to suspend his work and incorporate yours with it. At the same time between the State and Mr. Tanner your employment can not be the worse compensated. This suggestion respecting the aiding of Mr. Tanner need not prevent a plain copy being made out for the use of the State. This should be on a large scale at least three feet in length.

I have written to Col. Dinsmore agreeably to your wish, and will endeavour to have the map below the 31° furnished you.

I refer you to the Secretary of State who will write you and attend to your wishes. I am &c.

(Signed) Israel Pickens.

Executive Office,
April 16, 1823.

Col. Silas Dinsmore,
Sir,

By a resolution of the last Legislature, the Executive is requested and authorized to furnish for the use of the State a correct map thereof. Part being within the Southern District under your superintendence, I have to request the favour of you to cause a map of the Counties of Mobile and Baldwin so far as ~~the~~ is within your district to be made out and forwarded in order that I may transmit it to the draftsman employed — Such compensation as your Clerk will be entitled to for this service, will be paid.

You will please forward to the Executive office such communications as you may please to make.

I am &c.

(Signed) Israel Pickens

Department of State,
Cahawba, April 18th, 1823.

Hugh H. Holston. Esq.
C.C.C. Mobile County,
Sir,

I herewith transmit you a Commission for Robert C. Lane, Esq. as a Justice of the Peace for the County of Mobile.

In forwarding this Commission, the Governor has instructed me to observe, that as regards the Constitutional incompatibility in holding the office of Justice of the Peace and the Federal office heretofore held by Mr. Lane, it will exist in "holding or exercising" both offices. As it can not now be known to this department, whether the officer in question will continue to hold his Federal office at, or after his entering on the one to which he is now commissioned under the State, it is deemed improper for the Executive to ~~anticipate~~ the event by interfering in the Constitutional construction at this time — that may hereafter be a question of a Judicial Character.

As regards the constitutional objection to Mr Duval, as a Public Defaulter, the terms used in the Constitution are different from those in the case above, they go to exclude from "eligibility" to the office. In that case, by the Treasurers books the default appears — But in order that Mr Duval may have an opportunity to explain and correct any error in his account with the State the Governor requests you to give him notice of the fact — In the meantime the Commission will be suspended.

In regard to the case of Messrs. Wood and Johnson, neither having a plurality of votes, a vacancy exists, to be filled by the Election of the Beat — The death of one of the Candidates can not alter the case. —

I am with great respect &c.
G: J. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Alabama,
Department of State
Cahawba Novr 12, 1823

Wm Cline, Esqr.
Editor Telescope
Columbia S.C.

Sir,

Enclosed herein I transmit you, by direction of Gov. Pickens, Presidt. of the board of Trustees of the University of Alabama Seven Dollars being the amount of your account for printing the advertisement of the sale of University lands.

I am &c.
G. J. Pleasants
S. of S.

No. 1719 D Bank State of Ga
Eleazer Early C. W. B. Bulloch P. $5
6th Aug 1816.
No 623 Bank Augusta E $2

Department of State,
Cahawba May 24, 1823.

William Adams,
C. C. C. Marengo county,
Sir,

Your letter of the 17th ultimo, enclosing sundry documents in relation to the election of Justices of the Peace in Capt. Braggs' beat has been received.

The law requires that the returns of Elections for Justices of the Peace and Constables, shall be made to the Clerk of the County court, and requires that officer to certify the persons elected to the Governor for Commissions.

In the Case above alluded to, the Governor has instructed me to inform you, that such Certificate has not been given by the Clerk of the County Court, as the law requires. The Clerk will certify the persons elected, if such returns are made as will justify it — if such return be not made, and no election has been made, he will notify the Captain accordingly.

The Clerk will proceed with as little delay as possible, that Commissions may be issued to the proper persons.

I am with great respect, yr. most Ob. Servt.
G. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Department of State,
Cahawba, May 24, 1823.

John T. Smith, Esq.
C. County Court Limestone Cty,
Sir,

Your return of the 28th of March, certifying the election (the 2nd time) in Captain John H. Johnson's beat, has been received.

I am directed by the Governor to inform you, that the second election is not considered legal. The law is silent as to the hour of closing such elections. If they be fairly held and the voters allowed free privilege and opportunity of voting, it is deemed all the law requires.

The Commissions being duly ~~issued~~ conformably to the former returns, it is not believed a Certificate can be legally cancelled.

I am &c.
G. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Department of State,
Cahawba, May 24, 1823

B. B. Breedin,
Adjutant Mobile
Battalion, Sir,

Your letter (without date) enclosing a certificate of the Election of officers to Command the "Irish Independent Greens" has been received.

I am directed by the Governor, to inform you, that there being one volunteer Company of Light Infantry already organized in the Mobile Battalion, it is thought that there can not be another of of the same description, consistently with the law of last session: Therefore, the Company above alluded to, must be designated, either as a Corps of artillery, rifle or Cavalry. In its organization regard must also, be had to the restrictions contained in the 41st & 42nd sections of the Militia law, as to its numbers.

On notice to this Department, that the requisites above alluded to are complied with, commissions will accordingly issue.

Y. most ob. Sevt.
J. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

(Circular) Alabama Department of State,
Cahawba, May 17th 1823.

Sir,
I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, pursuant to an Act of the General Assembly of this State, three Copies of the acts passed at the fourth session of the Legislature of Alabama. One Copy for the use of the Executive Department, and one for each branch of the Legislature. Please acknowledge the receipt of these Copies as soon as it may be convenient

I have the honor to be &c.
J. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

His Excellency the Governor
of Louisiana.

☞ Same to the Gov. of each State in the Union.

Alabama
Department of State
Cahawba July 25, 1823.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit you herewith, pursuant to an act of the Legislature of Alabama, four Copies of the acts passed at the 4th Session of the General Assembly of this State. You will please acknowledge the receipt of the same.

I am &c.

Hon: Jno Q. Adams
Secretary State U.S.
Washington City

G: T. Pleasants
Secretary of State

Alabama,
Department of State,
Cahawba July 28th 1823.

A. Nicholls, Esq.
Secretary of the State of
Maine, - Portland

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Governor, to acknowledge the receipt of a Copy of the Public acts passed at the third Session of the Legislature of the State of Maine.

I have the honor to be &c.
G: T. Pleasants
S. of S.

Alabama,
Department of State,
Cahawba July 28th 1823

John Quincy Adams Esq.
Secretary of State U.S.
Washington

Sir,

I have the honor, to acknowledge the receipt, by direction of the Governor, of four Copies of the Public Documents and of the Journals of the Senate and House of Representatives, of the 1st Session of the 17th Congress — also, 110 Copies of the acts of the same Congress.

I have the honor to be &c
G: T. Pleasants
S. of S.

Department of State
August 7th 1823

Transmitted the Judges of the County Courts of Conecuh, Monroe and Baldwin reports of the road Comrs on the road from Claiborne to Pensacola & Blakeley.

J: J. Pleasants
S. of S.

Department of State,
Cahawba Oct. 17th 1823

Sir,

I herewith enclose you a Commission for Miles M. C. Innis as a Constable for the County of Pike. Commissions for the other Civil officers embraced in your return have heretofore been forwarded. Am I correct in taking your last as a Corrected return of the elections previously Certified, or must I understand, that the Commissions have miscarried, and that Duplicates are required?

The Legislature in the act organizing Pike, have omitted to designate the number of the Regiment, and also, to authorize the elections of field officers, which has been the reason why Military Commissions have not been forwarded pursuant to the several returns which have been received.

I am with great respect
yr. most obt. servt.
J: J. Pleasants
Secretary of State

Jesse Burch, Esqr.
Clk cty Court of
Pike County Montgy.

Department of State,
Cahawba Oct. 18th 1823

Sir,

Annexed you have a writ requiring you to hold an election in your County on the 12th day of November next for a Representative to fill the vacancy of Alexander W. Dulany, deceased. A writ has also been transmitted to the Sheriff of Jackson County.

With great respect &c
J: J. Pleasants
Sec. of State.

The Sheriff of
Decatur County.
Woodville Ala.

Department of State,
Cahawba Oct: 18th 1823

Sir,

Annexed you have a writ requiring you to hold an election in your County on the 12th November next for a Representative to fill the vacancy occasioned by the demise of Alexander W. Dulany.

A writ is also, by the same mail transmitted to the Sheriff of Decatur County. I hope they may be received in time, to allow you to give a sufficient notice.

I am yr most obt Servt
J. J. Pleasants
Secretary of State

Silas Parsons Esqr.
Shff of Jackson

State of Alabama
Department of State,
Cahawba Oct. 31st 1823.

Andrew Gregg Esqr.
Sec. of the Commonwealth
of Pennsylvania
Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Governor, to acknowledge the receipt of three Copies of the Pamphlet laws passed at the last Session of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania — and also, one Copy of the 6th & 7th Volumes of the Revised laws of Penna—

I had the honor to transmit from this Department in July last, three Copies of the acts of the last Session of the Legislature of this State, for the use of the Legislative and Executive Departments of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: which I hope have been received.

I am with great respect &c.
J. J. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

His Excellency
John Clarke
Gov. of Georgia,
Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Governor, to acknowledge the receipt of two Copies of the Digest of the laws of Georgia — transmitted by your Excellency on the 20th Aug. last.

I am &c
J. J. Pleasants
Sec. of State.

State of Alabama,
Executive Office
Cahawba, Oct. 31st 1823.

Sir,

Having been requested by a letter from the Ordnance Department to call on you to transmit to this State its portion of the arms due from the United States in virtue of the act of Congress of 1808 for arming the militia, to be consigned to such place as I should designate, accessible to navigation; I have the honor to request you to transmit the arms as soon as conveniently practicable via Mobile, to Cahawba, which last place is on steam navigation, to be consigned to J. I. Pleasants, Esq. Secretary of State.

The portion due to this State, as per the statement of Col. Bomford, is 1.112 Stand of Muskets. You will please send, in part of this quota, 120 Cavalry sabres and as many belts – 240 pistols, and the balance in muskets, with its proper accoutrements.

I am very respectfully Yr. most obt.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

Lieut. Isaac A. Adams.
Command'g. United States
Arsenal, New Orleans

Alabama,
Executive Department
Cahawba, Sept. 8th 1823.

Hon. Wm. H. Crawford,
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington City,

Sir,

An act of Congress having passed at last Session granting a right of preemption to a quarter Section of land in favour of each of the Counties of Marengo, Perry and Decatur for the purpose of Seats of Justice, the people of those Counties are desirous to embrace the benefits designed by the act.

The Commissioners appointed to select a site for the permanent seat of justice of Marengo County have reported a selection of the South East quarter of Section thirty-two in Township No. sixteen of Range three East, in the Land District of St. Stephens. This tract being a portion of the lands advertised for sale on the third Monday of October, I have to request that such instructions be given to the Land Officers at St. Stephens prior to that period, as may be deemed necessary authorize the right to be secured in the proper manner, or at least cause a reservation of the tract from sale.

The terms of the act appearing to admit of some uncertainty as to the manner of proceeding to effect the procurement of title. I request you to favour me with the necessary information on this point.

I am &c.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

Alabama...

Executive office, Cahawba Sept 8th 1823

Hon. Wm H. Crawford
Secretary Treasury U.S.

Sir,

I had the honor, heretofore to communicate to you the information, that the Treasurer of this State was authorized by a law of the last Session of the Legislature, to receive from the Treasurer of the United States, the fund of three per Cent arising from the nett proceeds of land sold within the State since the first day of Sept. 1819 with an authenticated Copy of the act. And also a request of information of the situation and amount of that fund, and the time and manner in which payment thereof may be made, having regard to the Condition imposed by Congress of a previous discharge of the Mississippi Stock and the United States debt to the State of Georgia. Not having been favoured with an answer to my former letter alluded to, I have to repeat the request, that such information may be furnished at as early a period as ~~will suit~~ your Convenience will permit. The Legislature of this State will meet on the third monday of November next, when it will be desirable that a knowledge of the situation of that interest should be obtained

I am &c

(Signed) Israel Pickens

Alabama—

Department of State,
Cahawba, Nov. 1st 1823.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Governor, to enclose you herewith, a Certificate of your election as a member of the House of Representatives of the United States

I have the honor to be &c.

G: I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Hon. Gabriel Moore
H of R. U.S.
Washington

Do Same as above, to Hon. John McKee and George W. Owen.
G. I. P.

Nov. 6th 1823

Transmitted the Judges of the County Courts of Washington, Clarke and Mobile, reports of the Road Commissioners.—

G. I. Pleasants

Alabama—
Department of State,
Cahawba, Nov. 8th 1823.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Governor, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th June, with the accompanying three Copies of the Acts passed at the last Session of the General Assembly of Illinois.—

We are in daily expectation of receiving a New Digest of our Laws, prepared pursuant to an act of Assembly, a Copy of which will be transmitted you.

I have the honor to be, with great respect,
your Excellency's most obt. Servt.
J. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State

Executive Office,
Cahawba, November 21st 1823.

To Daniel Coleman, Esquire,
Judge County Court Limestone County,

Sir,

I have transmitted to your care thirty-five Copies of the Digest of the laws to be distributed by you according to the act of last Session on that subject— That is, to the Judge of the County Court one copy; to the Clerks of the County and Circuit Courts each, one Copy, and to the several Justices of your County each one Copy. You will observe the requisitions of the act in retaining receipts and obligations from the Justices and Clerks for the return or delivery over on the termination of their respective services.

The Copies intended for sale will hereafter be transmitted to be placed in the hands of agents for that purpose, this portion not having yet arrived.

I am your most obt.
(Copies) Israel Pickens

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Bibb, transmitting Seventeen Copies of the laws.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Decatur trans. twenty-one Copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Franklin transmitting thirty Copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Jackson transmitting twenty-three Copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Lauderdale transmitting twenty-nine Copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Morgan transmitting twenty-seven Copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Shelby, transmitting Seventeen copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Blount, transmitting Seventeen Copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of St. Clair transmitting twenty-three Copies.

Same to the Judge of the County Court of Madison, transmitting forty-five Copies— also thirty-eight Copies to be sold on a/c of the State.

Department of State,
Cahawba, Nov. 25th 1823.

Nathl. Dodson, Esquire,
Judge County Court of
Monroe County,

Sir,

I herewith transmit you, by direction of the Governor, and pursuant to the 9th Section of an act of the General Assembly of this State, approved on the 17th day of December 1821, entitled "An act to appoint Commissioners to lay out Certain roads therein specified, and for other purposes," the report of the Commissioners on that part of the road leading from Cahawba to the Florida line, marked and delineated in the County of Monroe. The said report having been approved by the Governor.

I am with great respect,
Yr. most obt. Servt.
J. J. Pleasants
Sec. of State.

Same as above to the Judges of the County Courts of Dallas, Wilcox, and Conecuh.

Executive Office
✓ Cahawba Decr. 18. 1823.

Instructions to the agent appointed, under the first section of the act entitled "an act to carry into effect the laws of the United States prohibiting the slave trade".

1st You are to endeavour to obtain immediate possession of the African slaves concerning whom cases are pending in the Supreme Court of the United States. This you will effect if practicable by any peaceable means. You will apply to the District Judge of the United States for this District for such possession, at his Chambers if convenient, and if not obtained sooner, you will make application to the district court, and proffer to give bond for the careful treatment & forthcoming of the slaves, as may be ordered by the Court.

2 On obtaining possession, you will give to this Department immediate notice thereof; and also enter into bond in a penalty equal to the value of the negroes received estimating them at $500.00 each for safe keeping, & proper treatment of the slaves, and for their employment agreeably to the instructions of the Executive, such bond to be approved by the Solicitor of the first Circuit or by one of the Judges of the County Courts therein. which bond you will transmit to the Secretary of State.

3. The employment of the slaves is to be in two Companies, if sufficient numbers for division be obtained, otherwise, in one Company, in improving the two state roads, from the South to the north of the State. 1st From Mobile the state road to Tuskaloosa, including the branch of the road from Claiborne up the ridge between Bassetts' Creek to intersect the above. 2nd The road from the Florida line by Cahawba to the Tennessee river, and from Blakeley to Claiborne — By arrangement with the several overseers of roads you may be assisted.

4. You will hire only such number as will procure by the hire provisions, clothing and tools. Such overseers or assistants as you find necessary will be procured, on such monthly wages as are reasonable. For meeting such wages, you need not make provision by hiring until further advised.

5. The law has not specified the Compensation of the agent, owing to the uncertainty of the number of slaves that might be employed and the difficulties to be encountered by him. But no doubt can be entertained that your services will be well rewarded. And every attention will be given to your wishes by the Executive.

6. You will make report every month of your progress, your Contracts, expenditures and proceedings. Keeping a journal of every thing.

I have every confidence in your economy and your attention to this public trust.

I am your most obt.

(signed) Israel Pickens

Executive Department,
Cahawba Dec 29th 1823.

To the Senators from this State,
in the Congress of the U States,

Gentlemen,

Pursuant to the Resolution of the General Assembly, I herewith transmit you a memorial to the Congress of the United States, on the subject of preemption rights.

You will please take such measures as will be most likely to effect the objects of the General Assembly.

I am &c.
Israel Pickens

The same as the foregoing to the Representatives from this State in Congress.

Executive Department,
Cahawba, Jan. 1st 1824

Messrs. W. R. King and
Wm. Kelly,

Gentlemen,

I herewith transmit you, pursuant to the several Resolutions and requests of the General Assembly, Copies of sundry memorials and Resolutions of our Legislature in relation to subjects which it is their wish should be brought to the attention of Congress.

As the object of each resolution and memorial is fully expressed in the instrument itself, it is not necessary for me to call your attention particularly to any one of them— You will in presenting them to the consideration of Congress, take such measures for effecting their objects as your own discretion may dictate.

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen, yr. most obt. Servt.
Israel Pickens.

The same as the foregoing to the Representatives from this State in Congress.

Alabama,
Secretary's Office,
Cahawba, Feb. 8th 1824

To His Excellency
The Governor of Maine

Sir,

Pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of this State, I have the honor to forward your Excellency, three Copies of the Acts passed at the fifth Annual Session of the General Assembly of Alabama, one Copy for the use of the Executive, and one Copy for the use of each branch of the Legislature of the State over which you preside.

You will please acknowledge the receipt of these Copies as soon as it may be convenient.

I have the honor to be &c.
G. I. Pleasants
Secy of State

Same as the foregoing to the Gov. of each State in the Union.—
Four copies transmitted Mr. Adams, Secy State U.S.

Alabama,
Secretary's Office,
Cahawba, Feb. 10th 1824.

Sir,

By direction of the Governor, I herewith transmit you, pursuant to your request, triplicate receipts for the muskets &c. forwarded to the Executive in conformity with the order issued on the 31st October last.

I have the honor to be &c.
G. I. Pleasants
Secretary of State.

Lieut:
Isaac A. Adams
U. S. Army, New Orleans

Not. Recd 763 muskets equal to 763 muskets
— 767 setts of accoutrements }
equal in value to .... } 137 muskets
900 muskets

Executive Department, Alabama,
Cahawba, Feb. 28, 1824.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's two Communications, the first accompanying a resolution of the Legislature of Georgia proposing an amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The other relating to running of the line between the two States of Georgia and Alabama.

The two several subjects will be laid before the General Assembly of this State at its next session. There is no provision made by the Legislature of this State authorizing any act to be done toward the extension of the boundary line mentioned. The great extent of the line which is bounded on both sides by the Indian wilderness without a very immediate prospect of an alteration in this particular, may have led to the omission to appoint Commissioners on the part of the Legislature of this State during the session of 1822, when the subject was acted upon; at which session a resolution was passed in accordance with one on the subject of the boundary, which it was understood had previously passed in the Legislature of the State of Georgia.

I remain your Excellency's most obt.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

His Excellency
Geo. M. Troup Gov. of Geo.

Executive, Department,
March 25th 1824.

James G. Birney, Esq.
Solicitor 5th Judicial Circuit.

Sir,

Having received the assent of the President and Directors and of the Stockholders to the act of the last Session of the General Assembly, approved, the 21st December 1823, entitled "An act to amend the Charter of the Planter's and Merchants' Bank of Huntsville, and to provide for the speedy resumption of specie payments thereby," it has become my duty, pursuant to the 5th Section of said act to order the Writ of Quo Warranto to be dismissed, subject to the proviso in said Section.

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

Cahawba, Alabama.
March 27th 1824.

The Hon. William R. King,

Sir,

In virtue of the acts of the last General Assembly, authorizing a loan of $100-000 and in execution of the powers to us therein delegated we have deemed it advisable to appoint an agent to proceed to New York and such other place as he may find it proper with full power to negotiate the loan or any part of it if the entire sum cannot be obtained, and to receive and transmit the funds to this place. And we have unanimously agreed to solicit your acceptance of that agency.

Presuming so far on your disposition to favor our wishes and to aid in promoting the views and interests of the State, and in order to save time in the completion of the purpose we have transmitted to you by the same mail which conveys this letter, such documents as we have conceived sufficient both to authorize you to effect the loan and perfect the certificates of Stock, and also to satisfy any capitalist of the entire capacity of the State to meet the engagement it proposes to make, and of the competency and permanency of the pledge contained in the act.

You will find the following papers.

1. A letter of attorney to you giving full power &c.

2. Twenty blank certificates of signed by us, which you will fill up with the proper names, sums, dates &c. and as many blanks, unsigned. These you will fill up as copies to be retained and to be recorded here, to shew the tenor &c of all Stock issued.

3. The eighth section of the act authorizing the Governor and 5 Commissioners to make the loan, and the Supplemental act allowing a majority of the Commissioners to act. These are Certified by the Secretary of State, with the due appointment of the Commissioners. This Supplemental act becomes necessary as Dr. Phillips, one of the Commissioners is absent on a journey.

We send as many copies of this document as will enable you to accompany each Certificate of Stock with one, for Satisfaction of the holders. These are left attached to the Certificates.

4. We send a copy of part of the Acts of last session in which the Bank Act and the Supplemental act will be found entire, And the act for ~~the~~ amending the Huntsville bank Charter whereby they engage to pay Specie 1st August and continue or submit to dissolution.

5. The Cahawba paper of this date containing the proclamation shewing the assent of that Corporation to the act - From these documents it will appear that our banks already existing all are specie banks, and the proceedings that bank shew the strength of Public sentiment against bank delinquency.

The Constitution of the State we presume you can easily get hold of shewing the impossibility of multiplying banks, here, & of their surviving long after a failure to pay Specie.

The Bank Charter of the State Bank guard against excessive issues (twice the Capital is the limit.)

6. A Copy of the Revenue ~~Law~~ Act of 1822 which is continued as the permanent tax law till altered.

7. The consolidated report of the taxes returned last year shewing the amount on each object in each County.

One or two items in this document will alone be satisfactory to prove how ample the means are that are pledged by the act. The tax on Black and white polls for last year amounts to $ 52.491. more than half the whole loan. This revenue as all know is a rapidly increasing one and is simple and certain of collection.

Another object of taxation viewed every where as the most permanent and certainly productive is real Estate—

This tax forms but a speck in our revenues. Owing to a cause which will be obvious to any one who will advert to the Condition of the act of Congress authorizing us to form a State Government, whereby all lands are exempt from taxation for five years from the sale. Now it is certain that this restriction will be removed by its own limitation before the loan can be half run. By reference to the General Land Office you can ascertain the number of acres sold in Alabama: Estimating the quality at 2nd rate and comparing these data with the revenue act you will be enabled to present a satisfactory view of the product of this new source of revenue which may be applicable to the reimbursement of the loan if necessary.

8. Is a copy of the Comptroller's report shewing the Revenue actually received in the Treasury from the commencement of the the Territorial Government, and payments from the Treasury to the 25th December 1823.

This Document will shew, that the State has acted within its means. And that there was then a balance in the Treasury of $47.026 – and the State owes nothing.

9. A section of the Act of 1821, still in force, excluding from the Treasury every thing but Specie or its equivalent.

The effect of this you can be able to point out. The Continuance ~~of this policy by the State shews the limits of its means~~

The blank Certificates of Stock with our signatures, are for safe enclosed to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, in the manner of Packages from the Land Office here. You will there fore please to call on him and receive them.

It is confidently believed, that these documents, togethe with your own acquaintance with every thing relating to our State concerns and prospects will enable you to satisfy even the most scrupulous capitalist of the sufficiency of the pledge for repay ment. The pledge in the act is inclusive of all the objects of revenu so far as the State is able to make such pledge. And is tantamount to a specific enumeration of all those objects.

The depreciation of the medium of some of the Western Sta that have not the benefit of a good staple production such as Cotton, may without observing our advantages in this respect, be a cause of some diffidence in the sufficiency of our means.

As regards the State Bank, in aid of which the loan is desig the Charter will point out that good personal security is requi in obtaining discounts. None will be made on pledges of real estate or personal.

The object of this bank is not a mere matter of prof The short preamble explains its purpose. A sound medium fo culation. A secured place of investment of certain [illegible] University fund and Improvement fund particularly the [illegible] large and annually growing by sales of, and accruing instalments of lands sold — these only require permanency and regularity in product.

As regards the amount, it is desired that the whole authorized sum be obtained if practicable. And even if not more than $30.000 can be had you will please to obtain to that amount. A less in the aggregate need not be procured.

As respects the medium, Specie if possible is desired to be obtained.

When the money is obtained will make a deposit of it in the United Branch Bank at New York or Philadelphia payable or deliverable to the order of the President and Directors of the Bank of the State of Alabama and take duplicate receipts of such deposits, and apprize the Executive thereof &c.

As it is not probable the money will be required to be shipped hither earlier than the 1st Sept. next, it would save interest in the interval if an engagement for payment of the loan at that time, if an engagement for paym^t of the loan at that time can be made on which certain reliance can be placed. In case such engagement can not be made with any *banks* or *individuals* & *in a manner* that will admit of no disappointment, you will in your best discretion conclude such engagement. But as *certainty* of having the funds is of more importance than the interest, you will regard that object as essential. As to the terms of the loan, the stock is six per cent. & you will obtain it by all means without discount, and if above par or on premium still better.

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request contained in your letter of the 10th Inst. a list of the University Lands in the Tuskaloosa District. The list it is presumed differs from the list furnished you from the Treasury Department. A general list embracing *all* the selections made by the State for the endowment of the University has been furnished the Executive by the Commissioner of the General Land office: On comparing which with the one heretofore transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury and approved by him, several errors have been noted for correction, and a new and correct list forwarded.

In the last furnished us by the Treasury Department the N.W¼ sec. 2 Township 17 Range 3 is included — You will recollect that this tract is the remainder of a body of land selected for the University, all the rest of which, was sold by your predecessor — The sale being sanctioned, and this quarter being left alone is too small a tract under the act of Congress to be granted; It being required, that no selection should contain less than two sections. The attention of the proper officers was some time ago called to

29 to this tract — and has been more recently.

~~(In the list before referred to from the Treasury Department (and according to which it appears the patents have issued) the N.E. & E½ S.W.¼s of Sec 13 S½ of 14 N½ of 23 and N.E.¼ 22 are placed in Township 24 Range 12. No such selections have been made for the University. The same tracts with the like Contents have been selected in Township 24 Range 11. These variations you have doubtless noticed.)~~

A further selection has been submitted to the Secretary of the Treasury to complete, in part, the remainder of the grant, viz:

In Township 24 Range 12 (southern survey)
W½ of Sec. 3 Containing 257 30/100 acres. This tract adjoins the reservation at Montevallo

I have the honor to be &c.
G. T. Pleasants
S. G. S.

Wm. P. Gould, Esq.
Register Land Office
Tuskaloosa.

Executive Department,
Cahawba, March 26, 1824

Sir,

I have this moment received your letter dated the 6th inst. on the subject of running the boundary line between the States of Georgia and Alabama. To your former letter on the same subject I regret that my answer was unavoidably delayed for a longer time than I would have wished, being detained at my residence at that period, and not obtaining your letter immediately on its arrival here.

I also regret that no provision has been made by the Legislature of this State, whereby the State can be represented in the extension of the line in question. Altho' I am not apprized of any serious point of difficulty attending the operation, yet in a matter of so much permanent importance it would seem to be indispensably necessary to a final and satisfactory completion completion of this work, that the State should be a party. I hope that no serious inconvenience will be experienced should the matter be delayed until the Legislature shall have made provision for appointing one or more Commissioners or artists, which subject will no doubt receive the earliest attention of that body at its next session.

I am &c.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

His Excellency
Geo. M. Troup
Gov. of Georgia
Milledgeville.

30

Executive Department,
Cahawba, Ala. March 27th 18[illegible]

Sir,

Your letter dated the 5th ult. and the list of Patents of University Lands, have been received. I have compared the list with our list and maps furnished by the Surveyor General, and for better understanding I have noted my remarks in red ink at the end of your list, which I herewith return.

Dropping the quarter section N. W. ¼ of 2 T. 22. R. 3 West Northern Survey, Tuskaloosa District, which is a solitary quarter, there will be over 1300 acres to be yet selected.

I heretofore submitted a number of quarter sections to the Treasury Department, but as no notice seems to be yet taken of that selection, I now take this occasion of submitting a part of the same tracts with a small deviation from the former list I ~~have~~ submitted. I have to request that you submit the list subjoined to the head of the Department to be sanctioned or so much in the order stated on the list as will fill the Complement.

West half of Sec. 3. Township 24 Range 12. Tuskaloosa District	250.80 acres.
Section 12 T. 4. R. 11 Huntsville Dist.	638.84
N. E. ¼ Sec 28 " " " " "	158 81
N. E. ¼ " 17 " " " "	159. 11
	1207.56

N. E. ¼ of Sec. 34 or so much of it as will fill the Complement.

All these adjoin former selections already sanctioned. I have the honor to be &c.

Israel Pickens

P.S. Accompanying this you will receive a corrected list of the tracts now appearing to compose the whole selection, and it is requested that the patents correspond to the descriptions therein. I.P.

George Graham Esqr.
Comr. Gen. Land Office.

Alabama Secretary's Office,
Cahawba March 30th 1824. 31

Sir,

By direction of the Governor, pursuant to your request, I herewith transmit you the triplicate receipts enclosed by you on the 7th ultimo for the signature of the Governor.

The arms were duly received, and upon inspection are found to be in fine order.

I am &c.

J. J. Pleasants
Sec. of State.

Lieut. Isaac A. Adams.
U.S Army.
New Orleans.

Arms Recd.
240 Pistols
25 Screw Drivers.
120 Sabres for Cavalry
120 do belts.
120 do belt plates.
J.J.P.

Cahawba, Alabama,
Executive Department
March 23rd 1824.

Sir,

In Compliance with a resolution of the General Assembly of the State of Alabama, I have the honor to transmit to the Executive of the United States, four Copies of the Digest of the Laws of said State, comprising the Statutes up to the commencement of the last session: to be disposed of as may best answer the convenience and use of the General Government.

I am &c.

Israel Pickens

The Hon.
John Quincy Adams
Sec. of State
~~United States~~
Washington City

Alabama, Secretary's Office,
Cahawba, April 15th 1824.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Governor, to acknowledge the receipt of two boxes, marked "Department of State, J. Q. Adams" containing four copies State Papers, four do. Senate Papers, four do Journals of the Senate, and four copies of the Journal of the House of Repts.

I have the honor also, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th July, to the Governor, informing him that you had forwarded "by the way of Pittsburg and Mobile one box containing 110 copies of the laws passed at the 2nd Session of the 17th Congress" the receipt of which, when they come to hand, you request be acknowledged. They have not been received. It is most likely they remain either at Pittsburg or New orleans.

I have to request that you will send other copies in lieu of those detained, or to institute such enquiry as will lead to the transmittal of those heretofore destined for this State:— and I would suggest, that they be forwarded by the way of New York and Mobile — which would be the most certain as well as the most expeditious route.

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Y. most Ob. Servt,
J. I. Pleasants
Sec. of State

Hon. John Quincy Adams
Washington City.

Executive Department
Cahawba, apl. 13th 1824.

Hon. Wm H Crawford
Sec. Treasury U.S.

Sir

Being favoured with a letter from the Chief Clerk of the Treasury Department to the Hon. Wm R. King dated the 18th ult. whereby information is communicated, that on the close of the last settlement up to the 30 September last, there then appeared due to the State of Alabama on account of the 3 per Cent fund the sum of thirty two thousand nine hundred Ninety nine dollars and one Cent — which amount would be paid by a draft on the Receiver of Huntsville or on the bank at St. Stephens — if the funds in their hands, should be adequate.

I have the honor to request that a draft for Twenty thousand on the Receiver at Cahawba and one on the Bank at St. Stephens for the balance of the amount above stated as due to the State, be transmitted through the hands of some member of the delegation from this State in Congress, should Congress not have ~~appointed~~ adjourned and in case of adjournment previously, by mail.

The Treasurer of the State being appointed Ex officio the agent of the State to receive this fund, as you will have seen by an authenticated copy of the act of Assembly on the subject, heretofore, and more recently again sent, it may be most appropriate to make the draft payable to that officer.

I am &c.

Israel Pickens

Executive Department
June 8th 1824.

To the President and Directors of the Bank of the State of Alabama-

Gentlemen,

Whereas it is ascertained, that "One hundred thousand dollars can be had" composed of the means authorized to be invested as capital stock in the said bank, in virtue of the act establishing the same. Now therefore, in pursuance of the twentieth section of the said act, I hereby notify you to convene at the State House in Cahawba on the second day of July next, for the purpose of carrying the said act into effect.

By the Governor

Israel Pickens.

Executive Department,
Cahawba, April 5th 1824.

Sir,

I have the honor to repeat the information, that the Legislature of this State did in the year 1822 pass a law whereby the Treasurer of the State of Alabama was appointed an agent to receive the whole or any part of the fund of three per cent. on the proceeds of sales of lands in the State after the 1st day of September 1819. A copy of the act was heretofore transmitted to you, and presuming from the circumstance of no answer being received, that a failure has happened in the transmission, another will be now submitted. I have also to request you to order the payment of such sum on account of said fund as this State is now entitled to receive, to the Treasurer, Mr John C. Perry, or his successor in office. As provision has been made by the Legislature at last session, which will authorize the immediate employment of said fund, I have to request as early attention to this subject as may be convenient.

I am very respectfully,
Y. most obt.
(Signed). Israel Pickens

The Hon.
Wm. H. Crawford.
Sec. of Treasury,
Washington.

Executive Office,
Cahawba, April 29th 1824.

Thomas White, Esq.
Attorney General, Sir,

I have received information of the determination of the slave cases in the Supreme Court of the United States.

In the case of the United States' Schooner Constitution having had on board 84 African slaves the vessel and Cargo &c. are condemned as forfeited under the slave acts of Congress, but as to the slaves on board they are decreed to be restored to the Claimants. ~~which fact I have strong reason to believe could be very clearly disproved on a hearing of the case in which~~ This decree of restitution was predicated on the bona fide Spanish ownership of the Claimants, which fact I have strong reason to believe could be clearly disproved on a hearing of the case in which the State shall be a party. In the decree of restitution the State is not believed to be excluded from making claim. Not being a party nor privy to that proceeding. I therefore, request you, on behalf of the State, to take the case under consideration and to cause the necessary proceedings to be instituted before the property shall have been removed from the jurisdiction of this Federal district.

I am Very respectfully
Y. most obt.
(Signed) Israel Pickens

Department of State,
Cahawba, June 10th 1824.

Sir,

Pursuant to the act of the General Assembly, entitled "An act to provide for selecting a site for the seat of justice in Decatur County," passed in conformity with An act of Congress, entitled "An act granting to the State of Alabama the right of preemption to certain quarter Sections of Land," approved March 3rd 1823. There has been selected for the seat of justice for the said County of Decatur, the West half N.E¼ sec. 12, and the West half S.E¼ sec. 12, in Township No 5 and Range No 3 East of the Basis Meridian of Huntsville. — I am directed by the Governor to request, that you will cause the necessary entry to be made in the books of your office that the said tracts may be reserved from sale.

I am &c.

Benj. S. Pope
Register Land Office
at Huntsville

J. I. Pleasants
Sec. of State

Secretary's Office,
Cahawba, June 17th 1824.

(Circular)

To the Judges of the
County Courts,

By an act passed at the last session of the General Assembly, entitled "An act to regulate escheats" you are appointed, in virtue of your office of Judge of the County Court, Escheator for the County —

The first section of the said act requires, that the Judge of the County shall transmit his bond to the Secretary of State, and that the same shall be recorded in the office of the said Secretary within three months from the first day of January 1824: The Second Section of the said act, further provides, that a failure in the Judge to transmit the bond within the time required for it to be recorded, shall be considered as a refusal of the Judge to accept the office of Escheator, and it is made the duty of the Governor to fill the vacancy. No bond having been received from you, it is considered you decline the acceptance of the office. However, as the act constituting you the Escheator, may have escaped your notice until the expiration of the time allowed for the transmission of the bond; and as the Governor is desirous that

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you should fill the office, your situation as Judge of the County Court necessarily making you acquainted with such estates &c. as will come under the operation of the escheat law, thus creating a peculiar compatibility in the two offices: and the Legislature having taken the same view of the subject, are inducements on the part of the Governor to urge you to accept the appointment, which he has instructed me to tender you. Should you accept the office of Escheator for your County, you will please signify the same, by transmitting without delay the bond required by law, and a Commission will be forthwith transmitted. Should you not accept the office, you will please notify me of the fact with as little delay as possible.

I am with great respect,

Yr most obt. Servt.

J. J. Pleasants

Secretary of State.

To Andrew Pickens Esquire, President of the Bank of the State of Alabama –

Whereas by the 8th section of an act of the General Assembly of the State of Alabama entitled "An Act to establish the Bank of the State of Alabama" And an Act supplemental thereto authority is given to the Governor of said State and five Commissioners or a majority of them to issue State Stock redeemable after a term of ten years or ~~a~~ at the pleasure of the State to an amount not exceeding One hundred thousand dollars.

Now therefore the undersigned the ~~Governor~~ and a majority of said Commissioners do Constitute and appoint you as agent with full power and authority in our names to contract for a loan or loans conformably to the acts above named, and to issue Stock as is therein authorized, and to receive the moneys accruing from said loan, and when so received to be disposed of as the President and directors of the "Bank of the State of Alabama" shall have directed for safe transmission, as part of Capital of the said institution.

Ratifying & Confirming the acts of our said agent in the premises.

Witness our hands and Seals this 5th July 1824.

Signed Israel Pickens Governor &c

Geo: Phillips

Walter Crenshaw }

Andrew Pickens Esq.

Sir,

We have heretofore authorized the Hon: William R King to obtain a loan in pursuance to the authority given us by the act to establish the Bank of the State of Alabama in the act supplemental thereto, and we have given to him a letter of instructions a Copy of which will be furnished you. We have thought it advisable through caution, least some accident might prevent the completion of the loan by Mr. King, and in as much as the board of Directors have authorized you to proceed on the business of the Bank and transmit such funds as may have been deposited by our agent at New York or Philladelphia to give you full power as an agent to effect the loan or so much thereof as may not have been obtained on the condition Mr King should in any manner be prevented from completing his agency.

You will of course endeavour on your journey to see Mr King and know in what situation his agency may be, in relation to the loan & the issuance of Stock, or the prospects he may have in regard to the same. And your acting will depend on the event of some contingency by which he may be prevented from acting. Should you meet Mr. King in any of the Northern Cities you will of course Co-operate with him. In case you have to act alone, you are refered to Mr. King's letter of instructions. In case you receive monies obtained by loan you will of course take charge of the same in your Character of agent for the State Bank and make the transmission under the authority of the Directors.

We wish the whole sum authorized if to be obtained and we deem it unnecessary to restrict the loan to the limit of thirty thousand dollars. Any sum even below that amount may be useful in as much as it is presumable it will be so much Specie. This last instruction you will if necessary make known to Mr. King for his government.

Yours &c

July 5th 1824

Israel Pickens
Geo: Phillips
Walter Crenshaw
Thomas H Wiley